

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN RE: ALL CRIMINAL MATTERS  
ASSIGNED TO JUDGE DONALD C.  
COGGINS, JR.

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**STANDING ORDER**

In addition to the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and this District's Local Criminal Rules, the following rules apply to all criminal matters before the undersigned:

1. **Continuances.** Motions to Continue that are filed before a scheduled pretrial conference shall state a reason under 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(B) why a continuance is requested. Motions and proposed orders from defense counsel *must* include the language that **defense counsel has specifically advised his client that by requesting this continuance, or consenting thereto, the defendant has waived his rights to a speedy trial**, as well as language that defense counsel has consulted with the Assistant United States Attorney ("AUSA") assigned to the case and the AUSA consents.

2. **Voir Dire.**<sup>1</sup> At least seven (7) calendar days prior to jury selection, all voir dire requests must be emailed to chambers at [coggins\\_ecf@scd.uscourts.gov](mailto:coggins_ecf@scd.uscourts.gov). See Local Criminal Rule 26.04(A) (D.S.C.). The request forms may be found at [www.scd.uscourts.gov](http://www.scd.uscourts.gov). Prior to submitting any voir dire requests, the parties must confer and determine if they can agree on these requests. If so, the agreed upon requests must be submitted as joint submissions. The parties must also submit a list of witnesses and, if relevant, their addresses and occupations. If you intend to seek

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<sup>1</sup> The Court will ask potential jurors during jury selection if they know or have any connection with any of the attorneys, parties, or witnesses listed by either party in their pretrial briefs. The Court will also summarize the allegations and ask if any potential juror is familiar with the dispute or has any preconceived views that may impair his or her ability to be impartial.

special voir dire, you must certify that the questions you wish to ask are not duplicative of those asked in the juror questionnaire.<sup>2</sup>

3.     **Requests to Strike Jurors for Cause.** Joint Strikes for Cause must be filed with the Court no later than two days prior to jury selection. In trials involving more than one defendant, the defense must select one spokesperson for the purpose of jury selection. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 24(b)(2), the defendant or defendants jointly have ten (10) peremptory challenges in non-capital felony cases.

4.     **Jury Instructions.** Parties must file their proposed jury instructions with the Court at least seven (7) calendar days before trial. *See* Local Criminal Rule 26.04 (D.S.C.). Do not submit repetitive requests for the same legal concept in your proposed jury instructions. Additionally, each requested instruction should contain a citation of authority with references to specific sections or pages. If unreported decisions are relied upon for support, copies of those decisions must be attached to the jury charge request. Objections to proposed jury instructions must be filed with the Court at least (4) calendar days prior to trial.

5.     **Meet, Mark, and Exchange Exhibits.** No later than seven (7) calendar days before the trial date, the attorneys for each side must meet for the purpose of agreeing and marking all exhibits to be used at trial, and, where possible, agree on the admissibility of trial exhibits. In the event there is an objection to any exhibit, the opposing party must file objections with the Court

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<sup>2</sup> This district requires potential jurors to complete an extensive Juror Questionnaire. A sample questionnaire is available on the district's website ([www.scd.uscourts.gov](http://www.scd.uscourts.gov)). The questionnaire is intended to provide more thorough information to counsel than would otherwise be available and to minimize the time necessary to conduct voir dire. Copies of completed questionnaires will be available for review in the Clerk of Court's Office seven (7) calendar days before jury selection. Copies of the questionnaires may be purchased from Aim Mail (864-242-2900). To protect the privacy of jurors, prior approval must be obtained by submitting a Jury Questionnaire Request Form to the Clerk's Office by fax (864-241-2711), e-mail, or mail (300 East Washington Street, Room 239, Greenville, SC 29601).

at least four (4) days prior to trial. After the exhibit list is prepared, the parties are not to re-number the exhibits. If items are deleted, the exhibits should be struck through and marked as withdrawn. The Government may wait until the day of the trial to mark fungible evidentiary items such as drugs, money, etc.

6. **Proposed Orders.** Do not file proposed orders in CM/ECF and do not submit proposed orders as a result of oral argument unless requested to do so. In the event a proposed order is requested, or otherwise appropriate, counsel should e-mail a copy of the proposed order and related motion to [coggins\\_ecf@scd.uscourts.gov](mailto:coggins_ecf@scd.uscourts.gov) in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format (double-spaced), and opposing counsel should be copied on the e-mail. The e-mail subject line should include the case number and the short form of the case name. The e-mail should indicate if the order was requested or if it relates to a corresponding motion.

7. **Plea Agreements and Element Sheets.** Plea Agreements and Element Sheets must be filed with the Court no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to a plea hearing.

8. **Electronic Courtroom System.** Counsel are required to use the electronic courtroom presentation system during trial. If counsel has not undergone electronic courtroom training, contact Nora Chandler in the Clerk of Court's Office (864-241-2758) regarding use of the electronic system. However, note that training will not be conducted the week prior to trial or during trial.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/Donald C. Coggins, Jr.  
United States District Judge